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4-21-04

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277  
Shinji KITAMURA : Confirmation Number: 3557  
Serial No.: 10/046,484 : Group Art Unit: 2621  
Filed: January 16, 2002 : Examiner: not yet assigned

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR EMBEDDING WATERMARK INFORMATION  
IN COMPRESSED IMAGE DATA, AND APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RETRIEVING  
WATERMARK INFORMATION FROM COMPRESSED IMAGE DATA HAVING  
WATERMARK INFORMATION EMBEDDED THEREIN

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail-Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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APR 19 2004

Technology Center 2600

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Each non-English language reference was first cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the

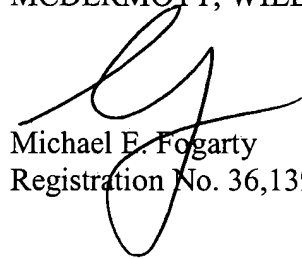
10/046,484

foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Date: April 15, 2004**



SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
CITATION IN AN  
APPLICATION

(PTO-1449)

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
60188-143SERIAL NO.  
10/046,484APPLICANT  
Shinji KITAMURAFILING DATE  
January 16, 2002GROUP  
2621

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US			
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## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes - Number & -Kind Codes (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
						Yes	No
		JP 2001-24876 A (w/ Partial English Translation & English Abstract)	01/26/2001	CANON INC.			
		JP 2000-32406 A (w/ English Abstract)	01/28/2000	NEC CORP.			
		JP 2000-13764 A (w/ English Abstract)	01/14/2000	SONY CORP.			
		JP 2001-7705 A (w/ English Abstract)	01/12/2001	NEC CORP.			
		JP 2000-151973 A (w/ English Abstract)	05/30/2000	CANON INC.			

## OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.